(d) to (f) It may not be appropriate to establish a direct correlation between increase in losses and mechanisation. According to CIL main reasons for losses are as follows :

(i) Complex geo-mining conditions in BCCL give rise to extensive water-logged workings as a result of which power consumption and the pumping cost is substantially higher. Besides, stowing has to be resorted to in a large number of cases for exploitation of thick and contiguous seams which becomes very costly.

(ii) Decline in underground production and OMS coupled with successive wage increase under National Coal Wage Agreement and the impact of interest depreciation.

Expenditure on air Travel

1727. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 6233 given in the Rajya Sabha on 9th May, 1994 and state :

(a) the details of the rule that endorses not maintaining separately the expenditure on air travel by the BCCL officials;

(b) the reasons therefor; and

(c) details of the checks maintained to eliminate misuse of air travel without keeping accounts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) to (c) The accounts in BCCL are maintained as required by Law. There appears to be no rule/legal provision requiring companies to separately maintain the expenditure on air travels. Audit both internal and external examines Books of Accounts including air travel. Complaints of misuse of air travel if any, would also attract departmental/legal action as per rules.

Tribal Workers in BCCL

1728. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that Reference Case No. 40/89 got award in favour of tribal workers of BCCL in 1992 through the Central Government's Industrial Tribunal, Dhanbad;

(b) whether it is a fact that the management has neither got stay in any higher Court, not implemented the award ;

(c) whether non-implementation of an award without getting a stay is legal and if not, the steps taken on the illegality of the BCCL management; and

(d) whether Government approved such illegality

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Management of BCCL, who were to implement the Award, filed on Special Leave Petition before the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court directed the BCCL to file a Writ Petition before the High Court. The management of BCCL has not only filed the writ petition in the High Court in terms of permission accorded by the Supreme Court but has also filed a separate petition of stay.

Loading of coal by Contract System

1729. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that loading and unloading of coal by contract system has been prohibited by the Central Government;

(b) whether it is a fact that despite prohibited the system is still continuing in BCCL;

(c) if so, the facts in details and the reasons thereof ; and

(d) whether there is different law for mechanical loading of coal and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Engagement of contract labour in coal loading and unloading is prohibited under the Contract I about (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970.

(b) and c) In BCCL, manual coal loading is done through departmental labour. However, due to irregular supply of wagons by the Railways mechanical loading of coal is resorted to through payloaders of cotractors.

(d) There is no law prohibiting mechanised loading of coal.

Coal Washery Project in U.P.

1730. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Uttar Pradesh has requested the Centre to set up a Coal washery project in Mirzapur with the assistance of the Coal India Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the places in U.P. where coal washeries are working and the capacity of each coal washery?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At present there is no coal washery of Coal India Limited (CIL) working in the State of Uttar Pradesh. However, one non-coking coal washery at Bina Opencast Project (4.5 million tonnes per annum capacity) in Singrauli Coalfield (Uttar Pradesh) is under construction.

Joint sampling of coal

1731. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question No. 3501 given in the Rajya Sabha on 22nd August, 1994 and state :

(a) whether the Ministry of Power have taken up with the Ministry of Coal that joint sampling of coal at power station end, is necessary;

(b) if so, whether the issue of joint sampling at loading end or at power station end, has since been sorted out;

(c) whether the order of Allahabad High Court for the constitution of a high level committee has been modified or vacated so far and if not, whether the order has been complied with ; and

(d) what is the total disputed amount claimed by SEBs on Coal India Limited for receipt of inferior quality of coal?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Following a decision of the Committee of Secretaries in 1991, joint sampling of coal is being carried out at the loading end from early 1993 Ministry of Power/power utilities have not fully accepted this system of joint sampling.

(c) The order dated 31-3-1994 of the Hon'ble High Court, Allahabad, for the constitution of a high level committee has since been recalled by the Court on 2-12-1994.

(d) The total disputed amount outstanding against State Electricity Boards (SEBs) on account of disputes on quality of coal despatched as on 31-10-1994 is about Rs. 771.00 crores (provisional).

Outstanding Payment for Acquisition of land by Neyveli Lignite Corporation

1732. SHRI TINDIVANAM G. VENKATRAMAN : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) whether there are still pending lists of persons for payment of amounts for their land acquired by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation;

(b) if so, what is the total outstanding amount to be paid in the first and second mines and the total number of persons awaiting payment till date;

(c) if so, how many such families have been given appointment; and

(d) if not, type of work they are provided by the corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) and (b) Since 1977, Neyveli Lignite Corporation has acquired 11,595 acres of land for its projects and an amount of Rs. 32.82 crores has been deposited with the State revenue authorities as compensation. NLC acquires land through the agency of the State Revenue authorities who are the prescribed agency under the Land Acquisition Act. It is the State Government which identifies the awardees, fixes the compensation and disburses the amount.

It has been ascertained from the office of the Special Deputy Collector, Land Acquisition, Neyveli that the compensation amounting to Rs. 8,16,669 in respect of 126 awardees is still to be disbursed for reasons such as award being disputed by the awardees, litigation amongst the claimants or amount not being claimed.

(c) and (d) 1,708 persons have so fat been provided with employment in NLC. They are engaged in unskilled jobs as Industrial Workers Grade II in various units. However, case of the 126 awardees mentioned above have been offered employment so far as their cases have yet to be finalised.

Diesel consumption in Lalmatia Coal Mines

1733. SHRI JANARDAN YADAV : Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state :

(a) what quantity of diesel was consumed during the years 1991-92, 1992-93 and up to November in 1993-94 in the coal mines situated at Lalmatia in Bihar;

(b) whether it is a fact that diesel is being sold in the black market outside;

(c) what is the number of cases of such black marketing which have been detected so far; and

(d) what action is being taken by Government in this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA) : (a) Consumption of diesel in mines at Lalmatia during the last three years and during the current year 1994-95 (upto November) is indicated below :—

(In Kilo litres)

1991-92	7001
1992-93	10185
1993-94	11923
1994-95 . . . . . (upto November)	7440